

# CONGRESSIONAL LOBBY EXPOSED BY A COMMITTEE

## Manufacturers and Federation of Labor Spend Money for Elections

### DISASTROUS FIRE AT LOVELOCK WITH SMALL INSURANCE

HOTEL GUESTS ESCAPE IN SCANT ATTIRE BUT NO LIVES LOST NOR INJURIES SUSTAINED.

LOVELOCK, Dec. 9.—Fire, for the second time in five years, swept one of the principal business blocks in Lovelock yesterday morning at 1:30. A defective flue in the Owl restaurant is the cause ascribed.

Total loss, \$76,000; insurance nominal. Big Meadow Investment company, \$50,000; W. R. Chadwick, \$3,000; John Shumate, \$2,000; Torrey Investment company, \$15,000; Western Union, \$1,000; Postal Telegraph company, \$1,000; Shobe & Warren, \$1,000; Owl Clear store, \$500; Nevada Packing Mines company, \$500; Mark Walker, \$500; Rochester Mines company, \$500; Bank bar, \$500; Bennett & Co., \$1,000.

### PANKHURST GOES TO VISIT DAUGHTER

ALLOWED SEVEN DAYS' RESPIRE FROM SENTENCE IN EXETER JAIL.

(By Associated Press.) LONDON, Dec. 9.—Mrs. Pankhurst left for Paris to visit her daughter and spend the remainder of her seven days of leave granted by authorities when she was released from Exeter jail. She arrived from the hospital at the depot in an ambulance and was placed aboard the train on a stretcher. The police witnessed her departure and there was no interference.

### NOT A SHADOW OF GUILT APPARENT

SLAYER OF DR. HELENA KNABE REMAINS AS GREAT A MYSTERY AS EVER.

(By Associated Press.) SHELBYVILLE, Ind., Dec. 9.—Judge Blair instructed the jury to dismiss the case against Dr. William Craig, accused of the murder of Dr. Helena Knabe, after the state rested.

The judge said it was a far cry from the proposition that Knabe was murdered to the proposition that Craig did it. He said the state failed to connect Craig with the murder, or to establish a motive.

### FAMISHED THOUSANDS ON THE BRAZOS RIVER

(By Associated Press.) HOUSTON, Dec. 9.—Motor boats on the Brazos river flood district carried food to famished thousands marooned on roofs. Larger boats are rescuing hundreds. The total dead number 143. A majority are negroes.

### SIX-DAY BICYCLE RACE IN GOTHAM

(By Associated Press.) NEW YORK, Dec. 9.—Twelve teams are bunched at 816 miles and five are ahead of the track record, at 3 o'clock. Jimmy Moran spilled, broke his shoulder blade and retired.

### Murderer Insane for Eight Years

(By Associated Press.) NEW YORK, Dec. 9.—The aged father and sister of Hans Schmidt, the slayer of Anna Ammiller, are en route from Germany in an effort to save Schmidt from the electric chair. They will testify he was insane for years. Eight jurors have been chosen for the trial.

### FOUR THOUSAND RICH AND POOR REFUGEES FROM CHIHUAHUA SEEK ADMISSION ON BORDER

(By Associated Press.) PRESIDIO, Texas, Dec. 9.—A band of 4000 Chihuahua refugees, including federal soldiers, rich and poor civilians, destitute and famished, are encamped at Ojinaga, across the boundary line. The soldiers communicated with Mexico City, and began fortifying the city, intending to make a defense on the border. Food was sent across the line. A majority of the civilians will be allowed to enter the United States. The refugees said they left Chihuahua aboard three trains. The first train was wrecked and this blocked the others. Engines and cars were dynamited and the journey was continued afoot. The party endured terrific hardships on the desert, without food or clothing. Valuables were abandoned en route.

### GOVERNMENT CHEATED OUT OF THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS BY AN ELABORATE SYSTEM OF FALSE WEIGHTS BY WESTERN FUEL CO.

(By Associated Press.)

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 9.—The case of the government against the officers and directors of the Western Fuel company came to trial this morning in the United States district court before Judge Maurice T. Dooling. Those under indictment for criminal conspiracy to defraud the United States of customs dues and full weight on imported coal are:

John L. Howard, president, James B. Smith, manager and director.

J. L. Schmidt, treasurer and director.

Robert Bruce, director.

Sidney V. Smith, director.

Frederick Mills, superintendent.

E. H. Mayer, weigher.

Edward J. Smith, weigher.

The case leaped into national notoriety when John L. McNab, then United States attorney for the northern district of California, resigned, charging that improper evidence was being brought to bear at Washington to prevent the case from coming to trial. President Wilson accepted his resignation immediately, but as yet has named no successor. The government's case is being presented by Matt L. Sullivan and Theodore Roche, special counsel, who were also retained for the Diggins-Cambini cases.

On the evidence submitted to the grand jury the government will seek to show that, by an elaborate system of short weights, a threefold fraud was perpetrated.

First, that on all coal imported, the government received less than the rightful customs dues.

Second, that the government was cheated by short weight deliveries of coal sold to it for the army transport service and other uses.

Third, that the company kept all engineers of the Toyo Kisen Kaisha (the Japanese line) and many engineers of the Pacific Mail Steamship company on a secret pay roll, in return for their consent to accept short weight fuel supplies, which the companies paid for at full weights.

In this way the government estimates that it bought coal which it never received worth \$500,000 at wholesale prices, and more than \$1,000,000 at retail prices; that there were similar huge profits from private customers, and that on all coal, to whomsoever sold and whether at full weight or short weight, the government was cheated of a sizeable share of its customs dues.

Testimony heard by the grand jury explained how these alleged frauds were accomplished. Summarized, this testimony was to the following effect:

The company owned its own mines and colliers. These colliers tied up along the company's pier to discharge. The coal was lifted from the hulls in mechanically operated scoops and dumped into tram cars, which ran on a skeleton trestle to the scales.

Each car was filled heaping full—so full that a large proportion of the last bucket of coal always slipped off the heaped carload and slid through the open trestlework into the company's pockets. This spilt coal escaped duties.

In continuing to the scales the car passed under a jutting beam, adjusted to such a height that it wiped off the load level with the car sides, and again the spilt slipped into pockets below.

Then, when the car finally reached the scales, there was a support beneath the scale platform which checked its descent at a predetermined level. In addition, it was possible to shift the barrow of the car backward or forward on the truck, so that only

a portion of its weight would register.

After the coal had all been dumped for storage into the pockets, which stood high above tide level, it was poured through chutes, as wanted, into barges, which were towed to the transport docks or alongside whatever ship was waiting to be loaded. From the barges it was again hoisted in-board by dredge buckets.

A tally of these buckets was kept, four out of every 50 were weighed, and from these weights an average was struck which it was agreed should be charged in the reckoning as one bucketful.

But the government contends that, whenever a bucket to be weighed was loaded, it was filled to the brim under the personal direction of the foreman, whereas, between weighings, buckets often came so light that the bottom could be seen between lumps of coal. On each bucket, though, the purchaser was paying full weight.

Of course, such bare-faced frauds could not pass unreported without the connivance of the purchaser's employees, and the testimony heard by the grand jury was that the company paid a regular percentage of its gains to the engineers who winked at them.

A record of these overcharges is shown on the company's books, it will be argued, and the directors and officers passed on statements showing the overrun on incoming cargoes and the overrun to army transports and American bottoms. On this showing the government asks for the conviction of the directors, as well as the weighers and officers alleged to be physically responsible.

### MOTION FOR BAIL DENIED IN THE CASE OF FRED WEIR

Late yesterday afternoon Fred B. Weir applied for admission to bail until the date set for passing sentence, but Judge Averill overruled the motion and the prisoner was remanded back to custody of the sheriff.

### FIRE PROTECTION AND SEWERS ARE TO BE TAKEN UP MONDAY

The water case has been reopened, and so has the sewer case. Notice to this effect has been received by the two companies handling these branches of the public utilities. The public service commission will arrive here next Monday to take testimony and to hear any further complaints or recommendations from consumers.

The chief cause for opening the water case is to have a full and complete investigation of the matter of fire protection with a view to installing a reserve fire supply and high pressure system distinct from the regular town service. It is assumed from previous sessions of the commissioners that there is little room for doubt that, under the contract, the question of fire protection devolves on the town board, and at their expense. However, this is a question for the commission to determine. The cost of establishing such protection is estimated at between \$15,000 and \$20,000.

The improvement suggested by Engineer Prenderberg of the commission is to place a tank with a capacity of 100,000 gallons on the slope of Mount Brounger and connected with the hydrant system by a series of high pressure pipes capable of withstanding a pressure of 150 pounds, sufficient to send a powerful stream over the roof of the Bank building. The

### Disable Gunboat and Get Away

(By Associated Press.) MEXICO CITY, Dec. 9.—It is reported General Aguilar and twenty rebels boarded the gunboat Tuxpan at Tuxpan, overpowered the crew, disabled the machinery and guns, captured a quantity of dynamite and escaped. The rebels were caught unawares.

### RAISING THE LIMIT ON PARCELS POST

ALL ZONES WILL BE BENEFITED BY THE NEW RATES AFTER THE NEW YEAR.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 9.—After the 1st of January the following weights and rates will be effective for the parcels post service:

To reduce the rates for the third zone from 7 cents for the first pound, and 5 cents for each additional pound to 6 cents for the first pound and 2 cents for each additional pound.

To reduce the rates for the fourth zone from 8 cents for the first pound and 6 cents for each additional pound, to 7 cents for the first pound and 4 cents for each additional pound.

To reduce the rate for the fifth zone from 9 cents for the first pound and 7 cents for each additional pound, to 8 cents for the first pound and 5 cents for each additional pound.

To reduce the rates for the sixth zone from 10 cents for the first pound and 9 cents for each additional pound, to 9 cents for the first pound and 8 cents for each additional pound.

Weight limit of parcels post packages in the first and second zones is raised from 20 to 50 pound, and books will be admitted.

The maximum weight of parcels to all zones beyond the second was increased from 11 pounds to 20 pounds.

George Betts was seized with a dizzy spell last Friday in front of the Nees store and was compelled to sit down.—Milford (Ind.) Mail.

## MULHALL'S CHARGES SIFTED DOWN LOAN SHARKS MAINTAIN LOBBIES IMPROPER POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

(By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—The house lobby committee reported on its investigation of the Mulhall charges. It presented a majority report and a supplemental report of Representative McDonald of Michigan. The majority report found McDermott of Illinois guilty of acts of grave immorality, but not of corruption; that the National Association of Manufacturers and the American Federation of Labor engaged in politics, expended money for the nomination and election of members of the house of representatives.

McDonald proposed in his resolutions the punishment of officers of the National Association of Manufacturers and the possible expulsion of McDermott.

The majority reported that the National Council for Industrial Defense, the National Tariff Commission association, the Washington City liquor dealers and local loan sharks also maintained lobbies.

The lobbies were guilty of improper political activities, it is admitted, but there was no evidence of the employment of members of the house for improper purposes.

Tipping of house employees was denounced. It was reported that McDermott obtained small loans from Mulhall without any intention of corruption.

Senate leaders have hurried the currency debate, hoping for a vote before the holidays. Nelson praised the Hitchcock substitute and attacked the democratic bill.

### UNSCRAMBLING OF TRUSTS OPPOSED BY ATTORNEY GENERAL M'REYNOLDS

(By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—Attorney General McReynolds, in his first report as head of the law department of the government, submitted to congress today, makes few recommendations for legislation. The changes he urges have more to do with the machinery of courts than with the fabric of the law.

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MESSAGE ON TRUSTS. President Wilson, however, intends to send a special message on the trust question to congress in the near future, and that undoubtedly will embody some of the attorney general's views.

Attorney General McReynolds made it clear, however, that so long as he was head of the department he would oppose court decrees in anti-trust suits where the combination was dissolved into parts under the control of the same stockholders. That plan, adopted in the Standard Oil and Tobacco cases, he calls a "fundamental defect," and later adds, in the same connection, "my fixed purpose is to oppose any plan of dissolution which would leave the separate parts of the unlawful combination under the control of the same set of men."

The attorney general offers a novel solution of the problem of superannuated judges. Such judges, under the constitution, hold office during good behavior, although they may retire at the age of 70 after ten years' service.

RETIRING FEDERAL JUDGES. "I suggest," says the attorney general, "an act providing that when any judge below the supreme court fails to avail himself of the privilege of retiring now granted by law, that the president be required, with the advice and consent of the senate, to appoint another judge, who shall pre-empt the affairs of the court and have precedence over the older one. This will insure at all times the presence of a judge sufficiently active to discharge promptly and adequately the duties of the court."

Mr. McReynolds suggests that clerks of United States courts should be appointed for specified times and subject to removal by the president for cause.

ANTI-TRUST LAW. Investigations of complaints that the Sherman anti-trust law has been violated pour into the department by the score each month, and come from all parts of the country.

"In many instances," the report reads, "the investigation has failed to disclose facts which would justify the institution of formal proceedings, but notice of the activity of the government has impelled officers of large industrial corporations to curtail dangerous tendencies. The bureau of investigation has looked into thousands of cases of all kinds, those concerning violations of the Sherman law and the national banking act averaging together more than fifty a month."

Out of the \$475,000 allotted for the detection and prosecution of crime, \$175,000 has been set aside for white slavery work, and the attorney general concludes: "The department feels that very material progress has been made, particularly during the past year, in suppressing the most vicious features of this traffic."

WELCOME DEPARTURE. The band of Gypsies that has beset Tonopah for the last three weeks left this morning, with the heartiest best wishes of the town, which begs them not to return. They were the filthiest pack of brutes ever seen in this section.

GOVERNOR MADE PRESIDENT. (By Associated Press.) NEW YORK, Dec. 9.—Governor John K. Tener of Pennsylvania was elected president of the National league.

Some of the noises made by automobiles are objectionable, but it is the pussy-foots that make you jump out of your skin to avoid a collision.

REMAINS OF MRS. E. M. CLYMO TO BE INTERRED IN TONOPAH

With the arrival of Ollie Sheehan, son of Mrs. E. M. Clymo, this morning, from Springfield, Tulare county, Cal., arrangements were made for the funeral of Mrs. Clymo. Interment will be in the local cemetery. The funeral will be held tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock from the undertaking parlors of Wonacott & Caranagh. Services will be conducted by Rev. J. M. Swander. The mother of deceased, Mrs. J. W. May, of Springfield, Cal., is precluded from coming by an illness that compels her to remain at home. The 10-year-old boy will be cared for by his grandmother.

DUBLIN DOCK WORKERS' STRIKE AT AN END

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